League Program Planning 2016

Saturday, February 7
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Las Fuentes Resort Village
1035 Scott Drive, Prescott

Guest Speaker: Quinci Castleberry with CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is a national association in the United States that supports and promotes court-appointed advocates for abused or neglected children in order to provide children with a safe and healthy environment in permanent homes.

Members Sandra Goodwin & Muriel Haverland will present on:
- Explanation of Program Planning vs. “Programs”
- Review of National Positions
- Discussion & Review of Local Positions
Dear Members,

2016 is here…and we are already planning for 2017 at our next meeting. Program Planning is an annual review of our local positions so all members can consider whether they need to be updated with a study or whether they are relevant – or whether they are just fine and continue to use them for action locally. Every other year we review either our State positions or National positions to determine our “program” or platform for the following two years. The National convention is this year, so we are reviewing the National positions, which will be voted upon at the convention in June. Last May was our State Convention in Clarkdale – so we reviewed our State positions last February. This is a great meeting to really delve into what the League stands for – and understand how we use these positions to take action at the National, State and Local levels. I know Sandra Goodwin and Muriel Haverland will provide a professional and excellent overview to League program to guide us into the discussion.

Ellie Laumark, our VP Program, based on discussions from last year’s program planning, has invited Quinci Castleberry to speak and provide an update about Court Appointed Special Advocates. Dottie Morris, a long-term member, is also involved with CASA and can add some insight, as well.

I attended the State Board meeting on Saturday, January 9th in PHX. Several events are coming up that you may be interested in attending: On January 28th, the Northwest Maricopa League is co-sponsoring the West Valley Education Forum in Surprise with many supporters of Early Education – Expect More AZ, First Things First, AZ Save Our Schools – and many schools at 7:00 p.m. On January 25th, the Greater Verde Valley League is co-hosting an event with Yavapai College in Clarkdale “Hidden Contributors to Political Campaigns: Is Democracy at Risk?” with speaker David Berman, PhD. There are two time slots to choose from for this event. The flyers for both events are in the Voter for more info.

There was much discussion about the importance of educating Independents on their inability to vote in the Presidential Preference Election on March 22nd unless they register for the party of the candidate they want to vote for – just in case you are registered as an Independent – you have until February 22nd to update your registration. We also discussed Proposition 123 – the Education Funding Inflation Adjustment Settlement proposition that has a Special Election in May. Joy and John Kohl, League members from NW Maricopa have done an excellent review of the proposition – and we will have the pros/cons and background paper for our next Voter. It seems like a “damned if you do, damned if you don’t” proposal…so it will be important for the League members to educate themselves as well as their friends and neighbors.

We are very excited about our March 5th meeting, as Arizona Town Hall will present the results of their recent town hall on “Keeping Arizona’s Water Glass Full”. It will be participative and engaging!

Lots to look forward to… As I mentioned at the last meeting – if you have not paid your dues by January 28th, you will be removed from the National Membership Roster. We don’t want to lose any of our valued members as we finalize our roster. We also welcome our newest members –and Cory Shaw, VP Membership hopes to have an orientation soon so we can get to know you!
CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates. CASA volunteers are everyday people appointed by a judge to speak up for abused and neglected children in court.

In Arizona, there are 15 county CASA programs administered by the CASA of Arizona office which is a program of the Dependent Children's Services Division of the Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Office of the Courts.

CASA of Arizona and its volunteers have been advocating for abused and neglected children in Arizona for over 25 years and have served over 13,500 children.

CASA of Arizona is part of a nationwide movement of community volunteers and is an affiliate member of the National CASA Association.

CASA strives to ensure that society is fulfilling its most fundamental obligation to children in need. CASA trains and supports qualified, compassionate adults who will fight for and protect a child’s right to be safe, to be treated with dignity and respect, and to learn and grow in the security of a loving family.

Speaker: Quinci Castleberry

I am originally from Southern California and moved to Arizona with my husband in 2011. I have a degree in Human Development from Hope International University, a small private university in Fullerton CA. I became interested in the CASA program while living in California, probably 10+ years ago, and made inquiries about volunteering, but my schedule didn’t allow me to make the time commitment necessary. When we moved to Arizona I decided I was going to become a CASA no matter what and the first year we were here, I contacted the local CASA program and started the process of becoming certified.

Around the time that my first CASA case was getting close to dismissal, a job opportunity came up to work for the CASA office and I applied. I began working for the CASA office as an Administrative Assistant, promoted to Program Coordinator a year and a half later and was just recently promoted to Program Manager in October 2015.

The day I started working for the CASA office was the day I knew I had found the job that I was meant to do. Everything just clicked. I love coming to work every day and I enjoy getting to know and work with the dedicated people in our community that give their time, life experience and hearts, to advocate for our most vulnerable population – our children in care! I am honored to work for CASA and look forward to continuing our efforts in educating CASAs so that they can bring hope to children when they have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect.
PROGRAM AND PROGRAMS ???

Newer League members are frequently confused when old timers use the word “program”. Program IS NOT the “programs” that our VP schedules each month. They are programs. “Program” IS the basis for the League’s education and action efforts.

**PROGRAM** is the generic term for all that the League does. It includes:
1. Issues about which we educate our members and the public
2. Adopted positions upon which action is taken
3. Issues for study that will lead to a position and permit action.

**STUDY** is the process by which all levels of League create and update our public policy positions.

**ACTION** is when the League uses one of these resulting positions to lobby or educate our members, our legislators and/or the public and without…. **STUDY**, the League cannot take **ACTION**. Annually Leagues throughout the country discuss what we want to study and how we can allocate our resources – human and dollars! That is Program Planning.

**NATIONAL PROGRAM PLANNING**

*The following has been condensed and modified from materials provided by LWVUS*

The program planning process is one of the important ways through which the League focuses its grassroots work to align each part of the organization with the others and with the League’s mission.

Program planning culminates with adoption of a program of education and action at LWVUS Convention – this year 2016 in Washington, DC. The input of League members will help shape the proposed program of study and action that will be submitted to convention delegates for debate and adoption.

Program planning is a valuable League tool for identifying issues for focus and for insuring that League resources, human and financial, from our grassroots volunteers to our professional staff, are engaged where they have the most impact.

Over the years, we have studied and come to consensus on topics within Representative Government, International Relations, Natural Resources, and Social Policy. We need to more fully utilize the positions we have. We suggest Leagues apply our current positions while also basing action on League Principles.
Leagues nationwide are: engaging in the Money in Politics Review and Update of LWV’s campaign finance position, studying the process of amending the U.S. Constitution; and reviewing the redistricting process for U.S. Congress, through the existing Redistricting Task Force, for the purpose of developing action steps.

National is asking leagues to more fully engage in these issues to further our efforts in a campaign: Making Democracy Work. The LWVUS Board asks us to consider seizing the opportunity for Leagues nationwide to meet this critical challenge.

To free up resources and unite Leagues across the country, we must focus. National is asking us to strongly consider the need to act versus adding new studies or reviews to the agenda for the 2016-2018 biennium. Let’s focus on taking action.

PLANNING LWVUS PROGRAM FOR 2016-2018

Our Accomplishments Since 2014

Key Structures of Democracy was the focus of the program adopted at the 2014 Convention for the 2014-2016 biennium. This comprehensive program consists of

1. A study of the process of amending the United States Constitution;
2. A review and update of the League position on campaign finance in light of forty years of change since the Watergate reforms; and
3. A review of the redistricting process for the United States Congress for the purpose of developing action steps.

As Convention 2016 looms ever larger on the horizon, how have we done on this program? And, while we may complete these tasks we set in 2014, what does this mean in terms of our overarching campaign to protect and expand voting rights in the 21st Century?

Through the (e-mail) League Update and other communication means, LWVUS strives to communicate to Leagues data showing League impact on priority issues. But they have not previously pulled all that together in one place for the purposes of assisting local, state and ILO boards as they plan their programmatic work for the upcoming year and provide program input to the LWVUS Board in advance of a national convention.

Key Structures of Democracy

What has been achieved since Convention 2014 approved a position update and a study and continued work by the Redistricting Task Force? These three committees have met regularly by phone and email. Study and update materials have been published online, consensus questions developed and posted, and guides for discussion leaders created and posted. Responses from League consensus meetings are expected by early 2016.

The LWVUS Redistricting Task Force has researched the League's history regarding redistricting and has compiled the 40 existing state League redistricting positions. Based on these positions, the LWVUS Board is recommending a concurrence with a broad, general statement at Convention 2016. The goal is to enable states
without positions to take action and states with positions to continue to work for the reforms that their study process demonstrated works best for their voters.

**Voter Protection and Service**

Since Convention 2014, in the area of voter protection and across the organization, we have

1. Delayed or defeated over 40 state laws aimed at suppressing the vote;
2. Supported at least 20 state laws intended to reform our elections;
3. Participated in 10 lawsuits involving voting rights;
4. Sent 60,457 messages to Congress regarding the Voting Rights Act Amendment;
5. Sent 27,705 messages to the FEC/IRS regarding regulations restricting money in politics;
6. Compiled a list of 40 state positions on redistricting to inform a possible national position.

While direct advocacy is critical to these core democracy issues, the work the League does every year in the area of voter service constitutes the front line of voter protection especially since the Supreme Court of the United States decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*. Nationwide, since 2014 the League has

1. Registered well over 75,000 new voters in hundreds of communities;
2. Successfully focused registration activities at high-yield venues such as naturalization ceremonies and high schools;
3. Participated every year in National Voter Registration Day increasing the number of League partners to 260 in 2015 and registering more than 18,000 voters in 2014 and 2015 combined;
4. Held over 650 candidate forums;
5. Distributed over 500 different voters’ guides through VOTE411.org and other methods, providing nearly 2 million people with comprehensive election information, including candidate statements via VOTE411.

**Looking Ahead to 2016 and Beyond – Overview of a Possible Program Focus: Making Democracy Work**

As Convention 2016 and Election 2016 and their outcomes draw near, it is abundantly clear that our work is far from finished in making democracy work for every voter and every voice in our communities. The opportunities that we see over the next biennium are as follows:

- **Voting Rights and Voter Protection**

  In Congress, we must continue to push for restoration of the Voting Rights Act by supporting the bipartisan Voting Rights Advancement Act (VRAA). We must continue to support positive reforms such as online voter registration for all, portable voter registration within each state, and reforms to provisional voting, areas for which there are already pending bills. We must continue pushing this administration and the next to comply with the National Voter Registration Act by allowing voters to register through the federally-facilitated health care exchanges.
• **Money in Politics**

Congress can take action to reform money in politics. Including the Stop Super PAC-Candidate Coordination Act in the House, there is legislation on each of the three pillars of our work on campaign finance: disclosure, stopping Super PACs, and public financing of congressional and presidential elections. There is also an anti-bundling bill. In addition, Congress can and must ensure meaningful enforcement of existing and future laws. The Federal Election Commission can’t fix itself, but Congress surely can. These reforms can be made despite recent decisions of the Supreme Court.

• **Supporting Voting Rights and Voter Protection in the States**

In the states the fight continues in statehouses and courthouses to prevent legislation that suppresses the vote. Support also continues for reforms like on-line voter registration and expansion of early voting. These efforts are most successful when state Leagues can rely on LWVUS for resources in the form of shared expertise and coordination of strategies and messaging. State Leagues play a critical role, too, in developing partnerships and coalitions to protect the vote, not only in state legislatures but also in local communities. Collaborating with LWVUS, state Leagues take the leading role in advocacy for voter protection but also in coordinating statewide campaigns around voting issues.

• **Supporting Voting Rights and Voter Protection in Local Communities**

In recent years local League voter service has joined the front lines of voter protection. Registering voters in underserved communities, high schools, community colleges, and at naturalization ceremonies has become the primary focus of our voter service work. More is required. It is critical that, in this upcoming election, we promote and support a local presence in our most vulnerable communities by working together with community partners and using our 95 years of election experience to protect voters in the next election.

• **Voting Rights and Voter Protection Following Election 2016**

The past five years have shown that elections have important consequences for both candidates and voters. Long lines at the polls in 2012 prompted the president to appoint the Presidential Commission on Election Administration to examine best election practices from the perspective of voter experience. The resulting recommendations provide an excellent road map for election reform at state and local levels. The League and our partners will be on the ground next November, but our election observations are meaningless unless we take them back to the appropriate decision makers.

**Election 2016 will be the most expensive in our history.** The issue of money in politics does not end the day after an election, nor is it confined to federal elections or the federal government. Leagues are working hard to update our campaign finance reform position, and it is incumbent on all of us to work at every level of government to ensure that power is in the hands of the many and not the few.

**Redistricting reform** continues to be a goal for the League. Armed with a position every state League can use, we look forward to more robust efforts to accomplish this goal. Progress has been made already, but League-wide support can strengthen the effort.

**In addition, given the current political climate, there will likely be continued calls to amend the U.S. Constitution through a convention.** The lessons learned through our study of the amendment process will inform LWV’s education and advocacy in this area.
Impact on League Resources

League program—local, state and national--derives from our overall mission and reflects League leaders’ and members’ best assessment of how to allocate resources to advance the mission in a particular period of time. Volunteer time as well as staff and financial resources are limited. All our work is program and, in planning for the next year or two, all our work is relevant to the decisions that delegates to a convention must make.

Proposing LWVUS Program for 2016-2018

Input from grassroots members is key to developing LWVUS program in every biennium. Given the challenges facing our democracy at every level of government and in every corner of the country, the LWVUS Board believes that, in order for our members in local and state Leagues and ILO’s to give thoughtful input, it is important to provide our recommendations and the data on which those recommendations are based at the outset of the program planning process. In doing so, the LWVUS Board is in no way suggesting that these recommendations are set in stone or that input from Leagues will not be a key component in shaping the final recommendations. We are also keenly aware of the many other important issues facing state and local Leagues and that Leagues are actively engaged in making democracy work at every level of government. It is vital that we focus our national programmatic work such that it complements and does not compete with work at other levels.

Support for a League-wide focus comes from a recent member survey. In November 2015 the LWVUS conducted an online survey of individual League members in order to understand how members are involved in the organization and their interest in specific public policy issues. Responses came from individuals representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands and Hong Kong. The survey findings told us members engage with the League primarily at the local level. Respondents identified money in politics, voting rights, redistricting and climate change as the main areas for League focus. These are the issues where Leagues at every level are knowledgeable and play a leadership role in their communities.

A program recommendation to Convention 2016 is not to be confused with the legislative priorities adopted by the LWVUS Board every year.

The LWVUS board is asking League members to support a program recommendation that focuses on core democracy action and education.

In providing input, we ask members to focus on where the League should put its energies and resources in the coming biennium. Considerations could include:

- In what way can the League best empower citizens to shape a better nation and communities during the next two years?
- What do our communities and nation need from the League right now?
- Where can the League’s strengths have the greatest impact?
- What program work would best help enhance the League’s influence, credibility, visibility, and membership?
• Should the focus be that proposed by LWVUS: a nationwide League campaign: *Making Democracy Work*, taking the power from the few and returning it to the many, as the single focus for LWVUS education and advocacy work in the 2016-2018 biennium? If the answer is “yes,” what specific activities should be included in the campaign? What kinds of training and assistance would enhance your League’s participation in the campaign?

• If our League would rather recommend another issue for education or advocacy as an alternative to the proposed focus, LWVCYC must provide the details of our proposal, including a statement of the problem that needs to be addressed, an analysis of the unique role the LWVCYC can play in helping resolve the issue, and a description of some of the specific activities the League could undertake on the issue.

Thank you for reading all this preparatory material. Your knowledge of the program planning process and expectations will GREATLY facilitate this upcoming meeting. We look forward to seeing you on February 6.

Sandra Goodwin and Muriel Haverland

NOTE: The League of Tacoma-Pierce County Washington has suggested two language updates to existing positions, one on Global Climate Change and another in Equality of Opportunity. Their suggestions will be discussed.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CENTRAL YAVAPAI COUNTY
PUBLIC POLICY POSITIONS 2012-13

JIUVENILE JUSTICE AND SOCIAL ISSUES

*LWVCYC Membership Adopted 2001*

Summary Statement: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports the continuance and introduction of programs for children (birth to age 18) in the areas of health, mental health, care and supervision that are provided by parents, public, and voluntary agencies. These programs must be funded, timely, appropriate, coordinated, available, and accessible by public transportation.

POSITIONS: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports:

1. Funding of all mandated health, inpatient and outpatient mental health and substance abuse programs for underinsured and uninsured children.

2. Preventive and treatment programs for children in health, mental health care and substance abuse that are easily accessible, timely and appropriate.

3. Program of parent education and involvement, both in groups and individually, providing understanding of parenting skills, health and mental health of children and youth, sex education programs, educational programs for pregnant teenagers, teen development programs and classes in parenting skills.

4. Employment of at least one counselor in each school to address students' needs and act as a resource to families and staff. In addition, schools are encouraged to provide sex education programs, educational programs for pregnant teenagers, teen development programs and classes in parenting skills.
5. Programs that provide protection and services to children. Such programs must be easily accessible by citizens and professionals, provide sufficient foster home placements for children and juveniles with different needs, enforce state laws, provide shelters for youths and stipends for older teens.

6. Recreational programs and after-school programs for children. In addition, teenagers must have access to locations offering information on teenage employment, community service, shelters, mentoring programs, medical services and distribution of food.

7. Community diversion programs and counselors available to school, police departments and other public and voluntary agencies.

8. Court coordinated community programs (such as Drug Court).

9. Policies and programs which treat all juvenile offenders with special consideration to age appropriate needs for mental and physical health care and treatment, safety and protection, and education with emphasis on rehabilitative services.

MEETING BASIC SENIOR NEEDS

LWVCYC Membership Adopted 2002-2003, Revised 2007

Summary Statement: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports the continuance and introduction of programs and services for seniors in the areas of health, care giving, jobs, recreation/socialization, transportation and affordable housing to be provided by private and public entities, the goal of these programs and services should be to pursue coordination, build coalitions, educate the public, and to oversee and monitor the process and results.

Position: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports:

1. Adequate services in the areas of health promotion and wellness, mental health, dental health and palliative care, accessible to all seniors.
2. Adequate funding for Medicare, AHCCCS and ALTCS to cover comprehensive health services. Medicare funding to be equally distributed between rural and urban areas.
3. Incentives and funding for recruitment, training and retention of health care providers by private and/or public institutions.
4. Adequate home and community based care giving services and programs to ensure the safety of patients and the support for and oversight of care givers.
5. Programs assisting seniors to update and enhance job and business skills, providing incentives for employers to utilize, train and incorporate seniors into the workforce, and for seniors to engage in entrepreneurial pursuits.
6. Adequate funds to develop community centers for seniors as focal points in order to provide information/referral services, socialization and recreation, nutrition, education counseling, and other professional services, physical services programs, and/or transportation to community services not on site.
7. An adequately funded, reliable public and/or private regional transit system.
8. A regional housing agency providing and administering affordable housing for seniors by planning and developing new housing and rehabilitating existing housing units.
9. A continuous source of funding for housing and home repair to meet the needs of low-income elderly, rural residents.
10. A central information referral system.
WATER

LWVCYC Membership Adopted 1999 and Revised in 2006

Summary Statement: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports the effective use of water and effluent, controlled development and use of alternative water sources (all sources other than ground water) increased water conservation and education and cooperation of communities in Central Yavapai County.

Position: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports:

1. Public and private accountability of water usage and conservation.
2. Acquisition and development of water and sewage systems by local government.
3. Taxes and cost reduction incentives, which result in water conservation and effluent reuse.
4. The study, development of alternative water sources when effective use of available effluent has been made.
5. Public education that communicates the need for conservation and the results of regional water studies.
6. The regulation and effective use of effluent for recharge and direct public use.
7. Measures that stress or require water conservation in the planning and conversion of developments.
8. The cooperation of communities within Central Yavapai County.
9. The attainment of safe yield in the Prescott Active Management Area no later than 2025.

WORKFORCE HOUSING

LWVCYC Membership Adopted 2006, Revised 2007

Summary Statement: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports affordable housing for the workforce that provides vital community services in the areas of education, health care, public safety and retailing.

Position: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County supports continuance of existing development policies and introduction of additional new development policies that result in:

1. timely decisions on new development to minimize financing costs
2. local officials working with developers on development agreements that include incentives for diversity of zoning
3. variety in housing density and a reduction of exclusionary zoning which limits buyer's choices
4. diversity of zoning that includes rental housing
5. housing within redevelopment projects
6. annexation development agreements which feature inclusive zoning
7. aggressively seeking companies whose wage rates relate to housing costs in the quad-city area.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

LWVCYC Membership Adopted 2007

Summary Statement: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports the establishment of an affordable and accessible regional public transportation system to serve the needs of residents and visitors in Central Yavapai County.

Positions: The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports:
1. A public transportation system which meets the needs of "transportation dependent" residents and visitors, such as disabled, homebound, low income workers and residents, non-driving seniors and youth. In addition, the system provides options for workers, shoppers, tourists and students.

2. A public transportation system based on existing research results, environmental impact, demographics, population density, community support and cost/benefit analysis.

3. A regional transportation authority.

4. The establishment of a regional transportation system beginning with intercommunity service between the quad cities, to be followed by expansion of intra-community service and eventually extending the intercommunity corridor within Central Yavapai County.

5. A transportation system which stimulates economic development through improving mobility of workforce, creating jobs, reducing traffic congestion, improving traffic safety, extending longevity of road infrastructure, increasing consumer activity, improving access to educational opportunities, attracting retirees and enhancing community business image.

6. A regional public transportation system which is funded by all appropriate federal, state and local grants and resources including use of lottery money, a dedicated tax, fare box recovery, advertisement and public/private partnerships.

7. An accessible and affordable regional public transportation system, the accountability of which is reviewed periodically against updated research, environmental impact, ongoing cost/benefit analysis, ridership and community support.

8. A public transportation system that is integrated with other aspects of the inter-modal transportation network, such as carpools, agency vans, bike lanes, and park and ride facilities.
Monday, February 22\textsuperscript{nd}  
Deadline to Register to Vote in the Presidential Preference Election (PPE) 

(Note: Those of you NOT registered with a political party will need to register with the political party of your choice if you want to vote in the “closed” PPE. You can always re-register afterwards back to “no party preference”, if that’s your “thing”.)

Wednesday, February 24\textsuperscript{th}  
Early Voting Begins in the PPE

Tuesday, March 22\textsuperscript{nd}  
Arizona Presidential Preference Election

Monday, April 18\textsuperscript{th}  
Deadline to register to vote in the May Special Election for Prop. 123 (Education Funding Inflation Adjustment Settlement)

Wednesday, April 20\textsuperscript{th}  
Early Voting Begins for Prop. 123

Tuesday, May 17\textsuperscript{th}  
Special Election for Prop. 123

Wednesday, June 1\textsuperscript{st}  
Last Day to File Candidate Nomination Petitions

Thursday, July 7\textsuperscript{th}  
Last Day to File Constitution & Initiative Petitions

Wednesday, July 13\textsuperscript{th}  
Last Day to File Arguments For or Against Ballot Measures

Thursday, July 21\textsuperscript{st}  
Last Day to File as a Write-In Candidate for the Primary Election

Monday, August 1\textsuperscript{st}  
Last Day to Register to Vote in the Primary Election

(Note: Those of you not registered with a political party will need to request a primary ballot for the party of your choice.)

Wednesday, August 3\textsuperscript{rd}  
Early Voting Begins in the Primary Election

Tuesday, August 30\textsuperscript{th}  
Primary Election Day

Thursday, September 29\textsuperscript{th}  
Last Day to File as a Write-In Candidate for the General Election

Monday, October 10\textsuperscript{th}  
Last Day to Register to Vote in the General Election

Wednesday, October 12\textsuperscript{th}  
Early Voting Begins in the General Election

Tuesday, November 8\textsuperscript{th}  
Election Day
Mark your calendars now for the --

West Valley Education Forum
"School Success Begins at Birth"

(Early Childhood: Importance to later school and life success and what is available and needed in Arizona)

Thursday, January 28
7:00 pm
Dysart Education Center
(15802 North Parkview Place, Surprise)

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Debbie Pischke
Early Childhood Director
Peoria Unified School District

Attend, Learn, Discuss
and be a part of efforts to improve Arizona education!

Co-Sponsors include:
The League of Women Voters of NW Maricopa County
First Things First-NW Regional Council,
Children's Action Alliance, Expect More Arizona,
AZSOS (Support Our Schools), Bringing Up Arizona,
Dysart USD (Unified School District), Peoria USD,
Nadaburg USD, Buckeye ESD, Litchfield ESD,
AAUW-NW Valley Branch
Dysart Community Center, SW Human Development,
Dysart ASSET, Marley Park PTA
and other groups
The League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley is pleased to partner with Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) to bring you a series of 10 monthly meetings addressing “Critical 2016 Arizona Election Issues.”

Join Us for the 1st Meeting on January 25
“Hidden Contributors to Political Campaigns: Is Democracy at Risk?”
Featured Speaker: David Berman, Ph.D.

David R. Berman is Professor Emeritus of Political Science and a Senior Research Fellow, Morrison Institute for Public Policy Arizona State University. He has written ten books and over 70 published papers, book chapters, or referred articles dealing with state and local government, politics, and public policy. His work for the Morrison Institute includes reports on direct democracy, clean elections, top-two primaries, redistricting, and dark money. Dr. Berman holds a bachelor’s degree from Rockford College in Rockford, Illinois, and both a master’s degree and a doctorate from the American University in Washington, D.C. His work has been funded by several research grants, including one from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

January 25: 9-10:30AM, Yavapai College Sedona, Rm 34
January 25: Noon-1:30, Yavapai College Clarkdale, Rm G106
Open to the public, no charge. Reserve a place. Spread the word.
Contact Barbara Litrell 649-0135, blitrell@aol.com
### LWVCYC Tentative Calendar 2015-16

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Activity</th>
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<td>Tues.</td>
<td>Feb. 2</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Board</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
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<td>Sat.</td>
<td>February 6th</td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Public Meeting</td>
<td>Program Planning</td>
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<td>Deadline</td>
<td>Deadline Voter Regist. For Presidential Primary</td>
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<td>Tues.</td>
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<td>Board</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
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<td>Sat.</td>
<td>March 5th</td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Public Meeting</td>
<td>What's our water future?</td>
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<td>Tues.</td>
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<td>Election</td>
<td>Presidential Preference Primary</td>
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<td>Tues.</td>
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<td>Sat.</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
<td>Public Meeting</td>
<td>Legislative Update</td>
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<td>This is a fourth Saturday.</td>
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<td>Tues.</td>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Board</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
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<td>Sat.</td>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Members</td>
<td>Annual Meeting and Speaker</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
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<td>Board</td>
<td>New Board Retreat</td>
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<td>Mon.</td>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
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<td>Deadline</td>
<td>Voter registration deadline for Primary Election</td>
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<td>Tues.</td>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
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<td>Election</td>
<td>Primary Election</td>
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Meet with State Legislators at this Members Only event

Sponsored by CopperPoint Insurance Companies

A Unique Opportunity to Get Advocacy Advice Directly from Current Arizona State Legislators.
Register For FREE Today
Thursday, January 28, 2016
9:00am to 2:00pm

There are still some seats left for this special Alliance Members Only Event. But it's less than a week away, so don't delay!

Planned Timeline
9:00 - 10:00am Panel Discussion with State Legislators
The day will kick off with a special panel on Nonprofit Advocacy with current Arizona State Senators and Representatives. Learn about how the nonprofit community can engage with legislators, such as the kind of information they find helpful, and the reasons they need to hear from nonprofits. The panel will close with a brief Q&A session, time permitting.

10:00 - 10:30am Best Practices of Working with Legislators
David Martinez, Advocacy and Outreach Specialist at St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance reviews some best practices about working with legislators, including the logistics of scheduling meetings and timing during sessions.
10:30am - Noon Small Group Meetings with Legislators
Following the large group presentation, attendees can participate in a series of small-group meetings with legislators. Once registration for the Day of Advocacy is complete, the Alliance will coordinate these group meetings. Or attendees are certainly free to plan ahead and schedule their own individual meetings during this time.

1:00 - 2:00pm Introduction from the House and Senate Floor
After lunch on your own, attendees are invited to attend a legislative session in the visitors' gallery where they will be introduced from the floors of the House and Senate as representatives of Arizona's nonprofit community. Attendees should plan to arrive for this at 1:00pm for the sessions which begin at 1:30pm. After being recognized, attendees can choose to leave or are welcome to stay through the session which is expected to go until about 3:30pm.

Panelists scheduled for the 9:00am session include:
- Representative Heather Carter, Panel Moderator
- Representative Kate Brophy McGee
- Representative Bob Robson
- Senator Andrew C. Sherwood
- Senator Jeff Dial

Who Can Attend:
Attendance is free of charge and open to current Alliance of Arizona Nonprofit Members. Limit one primary attendee per organization. Each primary attendee can bring one Board Member but both names need to be registered at the same time. Tickets are available on a first-come first-served basis. If the event reaches capacity, you can add your name to the waiting list for any additional tickets that may become available closer to the event.

Click Here to Register

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